

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

WYNN LAS VEGAS,

Plaintiff,

vs.

KONSTANTINOS ZOGGOLIS,

Defendant.

Case No. 2:14-cv-157-MMD-VCF

ORDER

This matter involves Wynn Las Vegas' breach of contract claim against Konstantinos Zoggolis. (Comp. #1-1) at 2-3¹). Before the court is Wynn's emergency motion to compel (#16). Zoggolis severed a timely response (#20); and Wynn filed a reply (#19). For the reasons stated below, Wynn's motion is granted in part and denied in part.

BACKGROUND

Konstantinos Zoggolis is a German citizen who resides in Frankfurt. He likes to gamble at the Wynn in Las Vegas. Between December 5, 2008, and November 2, 2010, Zoggolis allegedly indebted himself to the casino in the amount of \$1,300,000.00. (*See* Compl. (#1-1) at ¶ 18).

Zoggolis was able to obtain \$1,300,000.00 in credit from Wynn by using bank account information from Bayerische Hypo und Vereinsbank AG/Unicredit Bank AG. (Pl.'s Mot. to Compl. (#16) at 2:10). Wynn later learned that Zoggolis's bank account with Bayerische Hypo may have never existed. (*Id.* at 2:12). Because Zoggolis' debt remains unsatisfied, Wynn filed suit on November 26,

¹ Parenthetical citations refer to the court's docket.

1 2013.

2 The parties are in the midst of discovery. On April 22, 2014, Wynn propounded document
3 requests. (*Id.* at 2:16). But, Zoggolis responded with boilerplate objections. (*Id.* at 2:19). Wynn met and
4 conferred with Zoggolis's attorney; but no resolution was reached. Six document requests are at issue.
5 They are as follows. Request number four states: "Identify and produce all documents related to Wynn."
6 Zoggolis responded: "This request is objected to on the basis that it is vague, ambiguous and
7 unintelligible."

8 Request number eleven states: "Identify and produce all your bank records, statements and other
9 documents from January 2007 to November of 2012 for your Bayerusche Hypo und Vereinsbank
10 AG/Unicredit Bank AG account(s)." Zoggolis responded: "Defendant objects to this request for
11 production on the grounds that it seeks information that is not relevant to the subject matter of this
12 action."

13 Request number thirteen states: "Identify and produce any and all documents and records
14 (including but not limited to canceled checks, deposit slips, deposited items, withdrawals, transfers,
15 account statements, transaction history, signature cards, account opening documents, corporate
16 documents, and correspondence), concerning any and all open and/or closed bank accounts of yours for
17 the period January 2007 to November 2012." Zoggolis responded: "Defendant objects to this request for
18 production on the grounds that it seeks information that is not relevant to the subject matter of this
19 action."
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21 Request number fourteen states: "Identify and produce any and all documents and records
22 (including but not limited to canceled checks, deposit slips, deposited items, withdrawals, transfers,
23 account statements, transaction history, signature cards, account opening documents, corporate
24 documents, and correspondence), concerning Account 212177 (BLZ 50320191) for the period January
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1 2007 through November 2012.” Zoggolis responded: “This request for production completely fails to
2 identify the documents sought to be produced.”

3 Request number fifteen states: “Identify and produce any and all documents and records
4 (including but not limited to canceled checks, deposit slips, deposited items, withdrawals, transfers,
5 account statements, transaction history, signature cards, account opening documents, corporate
6 documents, and correspondence), concerning Account 503593 (BLZ 50320191) for the period January
7 2007 through November 2012.” Zoggolis responded: “This request for production completely fails to
8 identify the documents sought to be produced.”

9 Request number seventeen states: “Identify and produce any and all bank records for bank
10 accounts utilized to obtain any lines of credit at any other gaming company and/or casino.” Zoggolis
11 responded: “Defendant objects to this request for production on the grounds that it seeks information
12 that is not relevant to the subject matter of this action.”

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14 On June 5, 2014, Wynn filed the instant emergency motion to compel. The motion was filed on
15 an emergency basis because Zoggolis’s deposition is scheduled to take place in Germany on July 2,
16 2014. (Pl.’s Mot. to Compl. (#16) at 7:8).

17 **LEGAL STANDARD**

18 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(1) governs discovery’s scope and limits. In pertinent part,
19 Rule 26(b)(1) provides that “[p]arties may obtain discovery regarding any nonprivileged matter that is
20 relevant to any party’s claim or defense.” FED. R. CIV. P. 26(b)(1). Rule 26 defines relevant information
21 as any information that “appears reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.”
22 *Id.* Rule 26 is liberally construed. *Seattle Times, Co. v. Rhinehart*, 467 U.S. 20, 34 (1984).
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24 Where—as here—a party resists discovery, the requesting party may file a motion to compel
25 discovery. Rule 37 governs motions to compel. In pertinent part, it provides that a “party seeking

1 discovery may move for an order compelling an answer, designation, production, or inspection” if a
2 party fails to answer an interrogatory submitted under Rule 33” or “fails to respond” to a request under
3 Rule 34. However, before moving to compel, Rule 37 requires the movant to include a certification that
4 the movant has “in good faith conferred or attempted to confer” with the party resisting discovery before
5 seeking judicial intervention. FED. R. CIV. P. 37(a)(1); *see also ShuffleMaster, Inc. v. Progressive*
6 *Games, Inc.*, 170 F.R.D. 166, 171 (D. Nev. 1996) (discussing the meet and confer requirement).

7 Parties resisting discovery carry the heavy burden of showing why discovery should be denied.
8 *Blankenship v. Hearst Corp.*, 519 F.2d 418, 429 (9th Cir. 1975). The objecting party must show that the
9 discovery request is overly broad, unduly burdensome irrelevant. *Teller v. Dogge*, No. 2:12-cv-00591-
10 JCM, 2013 WL 1501445 (D. Nev. Apr. 10, 2013) (Magistrate Judge Foley) (citing *Graham v. Casey’s*
11 *General Stores*, 206 F.R.D. 251, 253–4 (S.D. Ind. 2000).

12 To meet this burden, the objecting party must specifically detail the reasons why each request is
13 improper. *Walker v. Lakewood Condo. Owners Ass’n*, 186 F.R.D. 584, 587 (C.D. Cal. 1999).
14 Boilerplate, generalized objections are inadequate and tantamount to making no objection at all. *Id.*
15 (citing *Cipollone v. Liggett Group, Inc.*, 785 F.2d 1108, 1121 (3d Cir. 1986) (objecting party must show
16 a particularized harm is likely to occur if the requesting party obtains the information that is the subject
17 of the particular objections; generalized objections are insufficient)). Therefore, the party opposing
18 discovery must allege (1) specific facts, which indicate the nature and extent of the burden, usually by
19 affidavit or other reliable evidence, or (2) sufficient detail regarding the time, money and procedures
20 required to comply with the purportedly improper request. *Jackson v. Montgomery Ward & Co., Inc.*,
21 173 F.R.D. 524 (D. Nev. 1997) (citations omitted); *Cory v. Aztec Steel Bldg., Inc.*, 225 F.R.D. 667, 672
22 (D. Kan. 2005).
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1 The court has broad discretion in controlling discovery, *see Little v. City of Seattle*, 863 F.2d
2 681, 685 (9th Cir. 1988), and in determining whether discovery is burdensome or oppressive. *Diamond*
3 *State Ins. Co. v. Rebel Oil. Inc.*, 157 F.R.D. 691, 696 (D. Nev.1994). The court may fashion any order
4 which justice requires to protect a party or person from undue burden, oppression, or expense. *United*
5 *States v. Columbia Board. Sys., Inc.*, 666 F.2d 364, 369 (9th Cir.1982) *cert. denied*, 457 U.S. 1118
6 (1982).

7 DISCUSSION

8 Wynn's motion is granted in part and denied in part. Zoggolis predicates his opposition on the
9 allegation that he "never provided Wynn with any bank account information at any time." (Def.'s Opp'n
10 (#20) at 2:5–6, 13–14). In support, Zoggolis cites Exhibit 1 to Wynn's motion to compel, which is a
11 credit application. Zoggolis states, "the undated and unsigned casino credit application was not
12 completed by [me]." (*Id.* at 2:6–8). The argument that credit was fraudulently obtained without
13 Zoggolis' consent concerns the merits of the action, which is not before the court. Zoggolis proffers no
14 argument or legal authority connecting the identity-theft argument with his noncompliance with Wynn's
15 discovery requests. Accordingly, the court now discusses each of the disputed discovery requests in turn.

17 I. Fourth Request for Production

18 Zoggolis argues that Wynn's motion should be denied with regard to the fourth request for
19 production because it is vague, ambiguous, and unintelligible. This request asks Zoggolis to "[i]dentify
20 and produce all documents related to Wynn." This is not vague, ambiguous, or unintelligible; but it is
21 overbroad. Rule 26(b) permits liberal discovery, which includes any information related to the subject
22 matter of the action.

23 Here, Wynn's request for all documents related to the casino is overbroad because the subject
24 matter of the action only concerns Zoggolis's alleged gambling activities at Wynn. Accordingly, the
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1 parties must meet and confer by June 30, 2014, to determine the appropriate scope of this request for
2 production.

3 **II. Eleventh Request for Production**

4 Wynn's eleventh document request asks Zoggolis to "[i]dentify and produce all your bank
5 records, statements and other documents from January 2007 to November of 2012 for your Bayerusche
6 Hypo und Vereinsbank AG/Unicredit Bank AG account(s). Zoggolis argues that this request seeks
7 irrelevant information because these accounts were closed years before he became a Wynn patron.

8 The court disagrees. The accounts are relevant because they are named on the face of Zoggolis's
9 credit application with Wynn. Even if these accounts were closed years before Zoggolis became a Wynn
10 patron, information related to the accounts is relevant to Wynn's claims and may be relevant to
11 Zoggolis's purported identity-fraud defense. Accordingly, Wynn's motion to compel is granted with
12 regard to the eleventh document request.

13 **III. Thirteenth Request for Production**

14 Wynn's thirteenth document request asks Zoggolis to "[i]dentify and produce any and all
15 documents and records (including but not limited to canceled checks, deposit slips, deposited items,
16 withdrawals, transfers, account statements, transaction history, signature cards, account opening
17 documents, corporate documents, and correspondence), concerning any and all open and/or closed bank
18 accounts of yours for the period January 2007 to November 2012.

19 Zoggolis argues that this request seeks irrelevant information because it "does not tend to prove
20 or disprove any matter at issue in this case." (Def.'s Opp'n (#20) at 3:5–6). The court disagrees for two
21 reasons. First, the standard cited by Zoggolis—(*viz.* whether information tends to prove or disprove any
22 matter)—is a variation of the test for relevant evidence under Federal Rule of Evidence 401. This is a
23 discovery dispute, not an evidentiary dispute. Accordingly, Zoggolis relies on the wrong standard.
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1 Second, when viewed under the correct standard, Wynn's discovery request is appropriate.
2 Under Rule 26, a discovery request need only "appear[] reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of
3 admissible evidence." FED. R. CIV. P. 26(b)(1). Wynn's thirteenth request for production satisfies this
4 standard. The request concerns bank documents and records. This is relevant under Rule 26 because the
5 subject matter of the action concerns a line of credit taken out at Wynn in Zoggolis's name.

6 **IV. Fourteenth & Fifteenth Requests for Production**

7 Wynn's fourteenth and fifteenth requests for production state:

8 Identify and produce any and all documents and records (including but not limited to
9 canceled checks, deposit slips, deposited items, withdrawals, transfers, account
10 statements, transaction history, signature cards, account opening documents, corporate
11 documents, and correspondence), concerning Account 212177 (BLZ 50320191) for the
12 period January 2007 through November 2012.

13 Identify and produce any and all documents and records (including but not limited to
14 canceled checks, deposit slips, deposited items, withdrawals, transfers, account
15 statements, transaction history, signature cards, account opening documents, corporate
16 documents, and correspondence), concerning Account 503593 (BLZ 50320191) for the
17 period January 2007 through November 2012.

18 Zoggolis responded both, stating: "This request for production completely fails to identify the
19 documents sought to be produced."

20 The court disagrees. These requests seek documents related to two accounts: Account 212177
21 and Account 503593. Additionally, the request seeks the following types of documents: (1) canceled
22 checks, (2) deposit slips, (3) deposited items, (4) withdrawals, (5) transfers, (6) account statements,
23 (7) transaction history, (8) signature cards, (9) account opening documents, (10) corporate documents,
24 and (11) correspondence. Additionally, the requests seek documents for a specified period of time:
25 between January 2007 through November 2012. Accordingly, Wynn's motion to compel is granted with
regard to Wynn's fourteenth and fifteenth requests for production.

1 **V. Seventeenth Request for Production**

2 Wynn's seventeenth document request asks Zoggolis to "[i]dentify and produce any and all bank
3 records for bank accounts utilized to obtain any lines of credit at any other gaming company and/or
4 casino. Zoggolis responded: "Defendant objects to this request for production on the grounds that it
5 seeks information that is not relevant to the subject matter of this action." Wynn argues that this request
6 is "vital" to establish "Zoggolis ability to repay the casino." (Pl.'s Mot. to Compel (#16) at 7:1-2).

7 The court disagrees. Zoggolis ability to repay the casino is not relevant to the question of
8 whether Zoggolis breached a contract with Wynn. Additionally, this request appears to be unrelated to
9 the subject matter of the action, which concerns Zoggolis's alleged gambling activities at Wynn.

10 ACCORDINGLY, and for good cause shown,

11 IT IS ORDERED that Wynn's motion to compel (#16) is GRANTED in part and DENIED in
12 part.

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14 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Wynn's motion to compel is GRANTED with regard to the
15 FOURTH REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS. The parties must MEET AND
16 CONFER by June 30, 2014, to determine the appropriate scope of this request for production.

17 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Wynn's motion to compel is GRANTED with regard to the
18 ELEVENTH, THIRTEENTH, FOURTEENTH, and FIFTEENTH REQUESTS FOR PRODUCTION
19 OF DOCUMENTS.

20 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Wynn's motion to compel is DENIED with regard to the
21 SEVENTEENTH REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS.

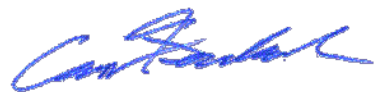
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1 IT IS SO ORDERED.

2 DATED this 17th day of June, 2014.

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5 CAM FERENBACH
6 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
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